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From: Bryan, David
Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 3:18:20 PM
Subject: OPA Morning Clips - 8/13/15

KWCH Ch. 12 Wichita, Kan. - Kansas sues EPA for rejecting state plans on greenhouse gas limits -
8/12/15 - Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt yesterday joined 15 other attorneys general and a state agency in a lawsuit against the Environmental Protection Agency for invalidating the individual air quality protection plans in those states. <http://www.kwch.com/news/local-news/kansas-sues-epa-for-rejecting-state-plans-on-greenhouse-gas-limits/34673372>

WIBW Ch. 13 Topeka, Kan. - Schmidt sues EPA for invalidating state air quality protection plans -
8/12/15 - Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt is taking a stance against new Environmental Protection Agency requiring 36 states to revise their carbon emission laws.
<http://www.wibw.com/home/headlines/Schmidt-sues-EPA-for-invalidating-state-air-quality-protection-plans-321576311.html>

Topeka (Kan.) Capital-Journal - Kansas joins 16 states suing EPA over carbon dioxide emissions rule | Specifically looks at start-up and shut-down rules - 8/12/15 - Attorney General Derek Schmidt announced Wednesday that Kansas would join a lawsuit against a rule the EPA released in June requiring states to revise their State Implementation Plans as they relate to emissions during power plant start-ups and shut-downs, and periods when the plants are malfunctioning.
<http://cjonline.com/news/business/2015-08-12/kansas-joins-16-states-suing-epa-over-carbon-dioxide-emissions-rule>

Rapid News Network - Kansas sues EPA for rejecting state plans on greenhouse gas limits -
8/12/15 - Attorney General Jack Conway joined Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi and 15 other states in a legal action against the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for illegally invalidating the individual air quality protection plans in each of those states. <http://rapidnewsnetwork.com/kansas-sues-epa-for-rejecting-state-plans-on-greenhouse-gas-limits/117206/>

E&E News - 17 states launch legal assault against startup-shutdown rule - 8/12/15 - Seventeen states are challenging U.S. EPA's recent rule that changed the way states are required to address excess air pollution that occurs during plant startups and shutdowns or industrial equipment malfunctions.
<http://www.eenews.net/stories/1060023356>

Utility DIVE - EPA plans to fix MATS rule by spring 2016 - 8/12/15 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency intends to file changes to its Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS) by spring 2016, seeking to make fixes after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the law in June.
<http://www.utilitydive.com/news/epa-plans-to-fix-mats-rule-by-spring-2016/403840/>

Dairy Herd Management - Corps of Engineers to EPA: 'misapplied data, analytical deficiencies' and more - 8/12/15 - The National Corn Growers Association has demanded the EPA postpone implementing its controversial rule and strongly supports congressional efforts to rescind the rule. The need for this action became all the more clear with the release of highly critical internal memos from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers related to the rule. <http://www.dairyherd.com/news/corps-engineers-epa-misapplied-data-analytical-deficiencies-and-more>

Farm Futures - Corn Growers ask for extension on Waters of the U.S.; EPA has spill - 8/13/15 - The National Corn Growers Association said Wednesday that more time is needed to review key information related to the Waters of the U.S. rule released in internal memos earlier this summer before the regulation becomes final Aug. 28. <http://farmfutures.com/story-corn-growers-ask-extension-waters-epa-has-spill-0-130939>

Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal - EPA press office blockades protested - 8/13/15 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has become among the biggest political footballs in the federal government, so the Obama administration has gone into a super-tight control mode. <http://www.courier-journal.com/story/tech/science/watchdog-earth/2015/08/13/journalism-groups-ask-epa-stop-press-office-blockades/31609947/>

KMBZ Radio, Kansas City - Koster files suit for underground gas contamination - 8/12/15 - The Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster has filed a lawsuit against a Kansas City gas station. The lawsuit claims the company that owns the station, Zill LLC, filed a work plan with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to clean up the gas, but then never followed through. <http://www.kmbz.com/Koster-files-suit-for-underground-gas-contaminatio/21852174>

WDAF Ch. 4 Kansas City - Kansas City community fed up with underground gas leak - 8/12/15 - A Kansas City, Missouri community fed is up with the effects of a metro gas station's underground gas leak is relieved to hear the attorney general is making moves to fix it. <http://fox4kc.com/2015/08/12/kansas-city-community-fed-up-with-underground-gas-leak/>

The Pitch (Kansas City) - Heavy gas fumes caused by gas station's petroleum leak at 31st Street and Cleveland draws lawsuit from Missouri Attorney General - 8/13/15 - Going all the way back to 2006, people who live near Inner City Oil, a gas station at 31st Street and Cleveland Avenue, have complained of a heavy stench of gas hanging in the air. In recent news stories, residents report the smell is sometimes so pungent that it causes them to vomit, or be unable to sleep. <http://www.pitch.com/FastPitch/archives/2015/08/13/heavy-gas-fumes-caused-by-gas-stations-petroleum-leak-at-31st-street-and-cleveland-draws-lawsuit-from-missouri-attorney-general>

Hannibal (Mo.) Courier-Post - Crude oil at spearhead pipeline in Shelby County spurs cleanup,

search for source of leak - 8/12/15 - The Missouri Department of Natural Resources and Enbridge Pipeline responded to a report of oil at the spearhead pipeline in Shelby County on Tuesday, Aug. 11. <http://www.hannibal.net/article/20150812/NEWS/150819640>

St. Louis area firm named as contractor involved in Colorado river spill - 8/13/15 - A week after a 3-million gallon toxic waste spill fouled Colorado's Animas River, the contractor involved at work at the site was identified as Environmental Restoration LLC, a firm based in Fenton. http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/st-louis-area-firm-named-as-contractor-involved-in-colorado/article_326548c7-bf23-5cea-974f-f0271cc3013e.html

Powerline (blog) - EPA Says: Do As We Say, Not As We Do - 8/11/15 - Steve wrote here about the Environmental Protection Agency's accidental release of mining waste containing arsenic and lead into the Animas River in Colorado. The spill is a disaster of the first magnitude, as the river has been turned a bright, toxic orange. <http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2015/08/135178.php>

CNN - EPA works to combat growing anger after spill - 8/12/15 - The Obama administration was scrambling Wednesday to manage growing anger over a government-caused spill on the Animas River in Colorado, announcing investigations into the incident while declaring contaminant levels in the water had returned to pre-accident levels. <http://www.cnn.com/2015/08/12/politics/epa-political-fallout/index.html>

Reuters - Colorado river hit by mine waste back to pre-spill quality - 8/13/15 - The water quality of a southwestern Colorado river rendered bright orange by toxic waste spewed from an abandoned gold mine one week ago has returned to pre-spill levels, the EPA chief said on Wednesday. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/08/13/usa-colorado-spill-idUSL1N10N2S020150813>

Biofuels Digest - Should We Get Real and Move The Goal Posts? - 8/12/15 - The short answer is yes! In light of all of the impediments that face those that are anxious to fast-track the development of large numbers of advanced renewable fuels plants. Clearly, to make this happen we will have to do more than ask potential participants to cooperate with one another on massive undertaking over such a long period. <http://www.biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2015/08/13/a-reality-check-for-setting-goals-for-advanced-renewable-fuels-use-and-advanced-renewable-fuels-plant-capacity/>

Forbes - Opinion: EPA's Toxic Spill Shows It's Still The Worst Regulatory Agency In History (But Perhaps I Understate) - 8/12/15 - An EPA cleanup crew on August 5 accidentally caused a breach in an abandoned gold mine in the southwestern part of Colorado, spilling three million gallons of highly toxic mining waste that contaminated waterways in Colorado and New Mexico. Then the agency failed to notify downstream jurisdictions whose drinking water and recreational waterways were threatened. To veteran EPA watchers, such monumental screw-ups are not surprising. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/henrymiller/2015/08/13/epas-toxic-spill-shows-its-still-the-worst-regulatory-agency-in-history-but-perhaps-i-understate/>

USA Today - EPA chief: 'We will be fully accountable' for toxic spill - 8/12/15 - Environmental Protection Agency chief Gina McCarthy said Wednesday the agency takes "full responsibility" for the release of millions of gallons of toxic mine waste last week at a Colorado mine.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2015/08/12/epa-chief-we-fully-accountable-toxic-spill/31555403/>

Clean Power Plan

Hays (Kan.) Daily News - EPA rules put Holcomb plant in doubt - 8/12/15 - The Clean Power Plan recently announced by President Barack Obama and the Environmental Protection Agency is designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from power plants by almost one-third during the next 15 years.

Tucked into the plan's thousands of pages is language that makes it even less likely a new coal-fired power plant will ever be built in southwest Kansas. http://www.hdnews.net/news/local/epa-rules-put-holcomb-plant-in-doubt/article_599a7a7f-39da-5b3b-ad7d-657e9c2a0082.html

The Energy Collective - How Big of a Deal is the Clean Power Plan? Part 2: Rhetoric Versus the Numbers - 8/12/15 - there is still a legitimate argument to be had over whether the CPP is aggressive enough. As David Biello writes, the CPP falls well short of emissions reductions necessary to avoid 2 degrees Celsius of warming. Even so, the CPP is a start – and a good one, at that.

<http://www.theenergycollective.com/michaelcraig/2257836/how-big-deal-clean-power-plan-part-2-rhetoric-versus-numbers>

Union of Concerned Scientists (blog) - How News Outlets Factchecked the U.S. Chamber's Flawed Clean Power Plan Numbers - 8/12/15 - What should journalists do when powerful institutions and politicians mangle and manipulate information about climate and energy issues?

<http://blog.ucsusa.org/how-media-outlets-covered-the-chamber-analysis-of-the-epa-clean-power-plan-843>

GreenBiz - How the Clean Power Plan would work - 8/13/15 - Limiting carbon pollution from the nation's power plants is the single biggest step we can take to fight climate chaos. That makes the Clean Power Plan a game-changer. This post, co-written with Derek Murrow and NRDC's outstanding analytical team, explains what the Clean Power Plan means and how it works. <http://www.greenbiz.com/article/how-clean-power-plan-would-work>

Inside Climate - Minorities Targeted with Misinformation on Obama Carbon Plan, Groups Say - 8/12/15 - The National Black Chamber of Commerce launched a PR campaign against the Clean Power Plan, fueled by ties to oil and gas industry, critics contend.

<http://insideclimatenews.org/news/12082015/minorities-targeted-misinformation-obama-carbon-clean-power-plan-national-black-chamber-commerce>

Breitbart - EPA Coal Rule Skirts Law: 10 Percent of Comments from Obama's OFA - 8/12/15 - In the western United States, a huge toxic waste spill caused by the EPA is spewing forth, polluting rivers and threatening lives and livelihoods. But while the EPA itself causes actual pollution, it's also attempting to subvert the administrative law rule-making process. <http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/08/12/epa-coal-rule-skirts-law-10-percent-of-comments-from-obamas-ofa/>

Forbes - Column: Will Clean Power Plan Benefits Outweigh Costs? - 8/12/15 - This federal limit will impact the industry at virtually every level from the miners to the consumers and will have implications for the entire economy. The question remains whether the benefits will outweigh the costs, as the Obama Administrations predicts. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/brighammccown/2015/08/11/will-the-benefits-of-the-clean-power-plan-outweigh-the-costs/>

PJM: Power plant retirements under draft carbon rules could threaten reliability - 8/12/15 - Just days before the Obama administration issued final Clean Power Plan regulations with emissions cuts deeper than initially proposed, PJM Interconnection released a white paper showing compliance with the draft mandates could threaten grid reliability under some scenarios. <http://www.utilitydive.com/news/pjm-power-plant-retirements-under-draft-carbon-rules-could-threaten-reliab/403845/>

E&E News - Clean Power Plan ratchets up burdens on coal states - 8/12/15 - When U.S. EPA released its long-awaited final Clean Power Plan last week, it was immediately clear that states would face vastly different obligations than they had been preparing for under the 2014 draft rule. <http://www.eenews.net/stories/1060023333>

Wall Street Journal - Obama's Climate Plan and Poverty - 8/12/15 - The EPA's new anticarbon rule is full of redistribution to offset its harm to the poor. <http://www.wsj.com/articles/obamas-climate-plan-and-poverty-1439420266>